

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 02381 290911Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 DHA-02 ORM-02 MCT-01
COME-00 /085 W

-----290916Z 018326 /20

R 281500Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9181
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 2381

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, PINS, BC, RH, SF
SUBJECT: BOTSWANA MAY BUILD NEW REFUGEE CAMP AWAY FROM BORDER

REF: GABORONE 2332

1. A SPECIAL BRANCH OFFICER TOLD EMBOFF DECEMBER 24 THAT
GOB CONSIDERING BUILDING REFUGEE CAMP AWAY FROM SENSITIVE
BORDER ARE. ALL REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA, INCLUDING SOUTH
AFRICAN IN GABORONE AND RHODESIANS IN FRANCISTOWN, WOULD
BE MOVED TO THIS CAMP. SUCH A MOVE EXPECTED PROVIDE IN-
CREASED SECURITY FOR THE REFUGEES AND REDUCE REFUGEE-
GENERATED TENSIONS IN GABORONE AND FRANCISTOWN.

2. ONE LOCATION UNDER CONSIDERATION IS NATA, OVER 100 MILES
NORTHEWEST OF FRANCISTOWN AND ABOUT 40 MILES FROM
RHODESIAN BORDER. NATA WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGES OF BEING
RELATIVELY ISOLATED AND PROVIDING EASY ACCESS TO ZAMBIA
VIA NEWLY COMPLETED NATA-KAZUNGULA (BOT-ZAM) ROAD.
SURFACE TRANSPORT WOULD CLEARLY SAVE A CONSIDERABLE
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PAGE 02 GABORO 02381 290911Z

AMOUNT OF MONEY NOW BEING SEPCNT TO TRANSPORT PROSPEC-
TIVE STUDENTS AND FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO ZAMBIA BY AIR.

3. COMMENT: "NATA PLAN", WHICH HAS APPARENTLY BEEN
UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR SOME TIME, MAY BE BASIS FOR
RHODESIAN CLAIM THAT "SECRET TERRORIST CAMP" ALREADY

EXISTS NEAR "VILLAGE OF NATA (SIC) IN MAKARIKARI SWAMPS
AREA" (PARA 3, REFTEL).
NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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